

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (original) Use of an anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator in the manufacture of a medicament for the modulation of lipid metabolism in the vascular system of an individual.
2. (original) Use according to claim 1 wherein the level of cholesterol is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.
3. (original) Use according to claim 1 wherein the level of apolipoprotein-B is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.
4. (original) Use according to claim 3 wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, nephrotic syndrome, hypothyroidism, dysglobulinemia and Cushing syndrome.
5. (original) Use according to claim 5 wherein said anti-microbial agent is a macrolide antibiotic.
6. (currently amended) Use according to claim 5 wherein said anti-microbial agent is a azalide antibiotic.

7. (original) Use according to claim 6 wherein said anti-microbial agent is azithromycin.

8. (currently amended) Use according to ~~any one of the preceding claims~~ claim 1 wherein said metal chelator is a copper chelator.

9. (original) Use according to claim 8 wherein said copper chelator is acetylsalicylic acid.

10. (currently amended) Use according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 wherein said medicament is a single composition comprising an anti- microbial agent and a metal chelator.

11. (currently amended) Use according to ~~any of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1 wherein said medicament comprises separate preparations of the anti- microbial agent and metal chelator.

12. (original) A method for modulating lipid metabolism in the vascular system comprising administering an anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator to an individual in need thereof.

13. (currently amended) A method according to claim 12 wherein the total level of cholesterol is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.

14. (currently amended) A method according to claim 12 ~~or claim 13~~ wherein the level of apolipoprotein-B is reduced in the vascular system of the individual.

15. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 14~~ claim 12 wherein the condition is selected from the group consisting of hypercholesterolemia, hyperlipidemia, nephrotic syndrome, hypothyroidism, dysglobulinemia and Cushing syndrome.

16. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 15~~ claim 12 wherein said anti-microbial agent is a macrolide antibiotic.

17. (currently amended) A method according to claim 16 wherein said anti- microbial agent is a azalide antibiotic.

18. (original) A method according to claim 17 wherein said anti- microbial agent is azithromycin.

19. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 18~~ claim 12 wherein said metal chelator is a copper chelator.

20. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 19~~ claim 12 wherein said copper chelator is acetylsalicylic acid.

21. (currently amended) A method according to claim according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 20~~ claim 12 wherein anti-microbial agent and the metal chelator are administered simultaneously.

22. (currently amended) A method according to ~~any one of claims 12 to 20~~ claim 12 wherein anti-microbial agent and the metal chelator are administered sequentially.

23. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising an anti-microbial agent and a metal-chelator for use in the modulation of lipid metabolism.

24. (currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 23 comprising azithromycin and aspirin.

25. (original) A method of preparing a composition for use in the modulation of lipid metabolism comprising; admixing a anti-microbial agent and a metal chelator with a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.

26. (currently amended) A method according to claim 25 wherein the anti-microbial agent is azithromycin and the metal chelator is acetylsalicylic acid.